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Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP One Oxford Centre, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-394-2325 Patrick W. Carothers (PWC By: ) Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street **Suite 1910** Philadelphia, PA 19103-7041 215-640-8500 BY: BARRY L. COHEN (BLC 4449) Attorneys for Defendant, HCSC-Laundry

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

In re:	) Chapter 11
BAYONNE MEDICAL CENTER,	) Case No. 07-15195 (MS)
Debtor.	) ) )
THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS OF BAYONNE MEDICAL CENTER,	) ) Adv. Pro. No. 09-01554 (MS)
Plaintiff,	)
V.	) )
HCSC-LAUNDRY, a Division of	)
Hospital Central Services	)
Cooperative, Inc.,	)
Defendant.	) ) )

ANSWER TO ADVERSARY COMPLAINT FOR RECOVERY OF PREFERENTIAL PAYMENTS

HCSC-Laundry (the "Defendant"), through its undersigned counsel, files the following Answer to Adversary Complaint for Recovery of Preferential Payments (the "Complaint"), averring as follows:

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. Averment 1 is admitted.
- 2. Averment 2 is admitted.
- 3. Averment 3 is admitted.
- 4. Averment 4 is admitted.
- 5. Averment 5 is admitted.

## **BACKGROUND AND PARTIES**

- 6. Averment 6 is admitted.
- 7. Averment 7 is admitted.
- 8. Averment 8 is admitted.
- 9. Averment 9 is admitted.
- 10. Averment 10 is admitted.

## **COUNT I**

#### **AVOIDANCE AND RECOVERY OF PREFERENTIAL TRANSFER**

- 11. Paragraphs 1 through 10 are incorporated herein by reference.
- 12. Averment 12 is admitted.
- 13. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief concerning the truth of the remaining averments stated in paragraph 13.
- 14. Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief concerning the truth of the remaining averments stated in paragraph 14.
  - 15. Averment 15 is admitted.

- 16. The averments contained in paragraph 16 contain conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the averments are denied.
- 17. The averments contained in paragraph 17 contain conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the averments are denied.
- 18. The averments contained in paragraph 18 contain conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the averments are denied.
- 19. The averments contained in paragraph 19 contain conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the averments are denied.

## **COUNT II**

## **ATTORNEYS FEES AND COSTS**

- 20. Paragraphs 1 through 19 are incorporated herein by reference.
- 21. The averments contained in paragraph 21 contain conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the averments are denied.

WHEREFORE, HCSC-Laundry requests that the Complaint be dismissed.

#### AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 22. Paragraphs 1 through 17 are incorporated herein by reference.
- 23. All elements of a *prima facie* case under 11 U.S.C. §§ 544 (b), 547(b), 548(1)(A) and 11 Pa. C.S. § 5104(a)(2) are not met.
  - 24. At all relevant times, the Debtor was solvent.
- 25. Assuming, without conceding, that all of the elements of a *prima facie* case under 11 U.S.C. § 547(b) can be met, any and all transfers that the Defendant received are immune from avoidance by virtue of 11 U.S.C. § 547(c).

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- 26. Assuming, without conceding, that all of the elements of a *prima facie* case under 11 U.S.C. § 547(b) are present, the Defendant has a right of setoff under 11 U.S.C. § 553.
- 27. The Debtor received reasonably equivalent value for any payments made to the Defendant.
- 28. The Plaintiff is estopped from asserting that the Defendant failed to provide value to the Debtor for payments made to the Defendant.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 10, 2009 THORP REED & ARMSTRONG, LLP

/s/ Barry L. Cohen
Patrick W. Carothers\*
Barry L. Cohen
One Oxford Centre, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor
301 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1425
(412) 394-2325 phone
(412) 394-2555 facsimile
pcarothers@thorpreed.com

Attorneys for Defendant, HCSC-Laundry

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing

ANSWER TO ADVERSARY COMPLAINT FOR RECOVERY OF PREFERENTIAL

PAYMENTS has been served upon counsel of record this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2009 via Court's electronic system and via U.S. Mail, First-Class postage prepaid, as follows:

Valerie A. Hamilton, Esq. SILLS CUMMIS & GROSS P.C. 650 College Road East, Suite 4000 Princeton, NJ 08540 (Counsel for Plaintiff)

/s/ Barry L. Cohen